

ful many an evening, as she sat by the stone hearth of the old homestead. At her feet chirped the crickets, before her blazed the logs, and beside her good Mrs. Hubert talked of the sicknesses and deaths and merry-makings of the neighborhood, interlarding now and then by comments on the weather. Indeed, Mrs. Hubert was exceedingly fond of comparing one day with another, and the seasons of different years. "Twenty years ago," she would say, sometimes, "we had an airy fall; the apples froze on the trees, and the late turnips were not worth a cent." Every day and every week she compared or contrasted with some other day or week, five, ten, or twenty years ago. So Linney was no longer interested in any of the warm spells that had ever thawed the frosts of January and brought forward the untimely fruit, nor in the great frosts that had swept off fences and bridges, and drowned a calf or two perhaps, nor yet in the wicked frosts that blackened the peach blossoms and wilted the young cucumber vines, some time long past.

The winter evenings, as I have said, must have been tedious, but for the bright dream of Linney. It was only a dream; and the boughs were bare of the roses, the next summer, that she kept blooming about her all the winter.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1853.

The following named gentlemen are authorized agents for the cities of Philadelphia, New York, and Boston.

William Alcorn, No. 826 Lombard street, Phila.

William Harned, No. 48 Beekman street, N. York.

W. W. Light, No. 2 Church, Boston.

A NEW DOCUMENT—containing, 1. Declaration of Independence; 2. Constitution of the United States; 3. Fugitive Slave Law; 4. Platform of the Parties, as adopted in 1852; and 5. Hon. Charles Sumner's Speech on the Constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law—is now in press, and will shortly be issued. It will be a handsome pamphlet of 48 pages, and will be furnished (postage paid) at 10 cents per single copy; \$1 per dozen, or \$6 per hundred. Orders are respectfully solicited.

The above, not including Mr. Sumner's Speech, will be furnished at the rate of \$2 per hundred.

A. M. GANDEWER.

100 95, Washington, D. C.

THE NEW CABINET.

Rumors are plenty about the composition of the new Cabinet. McClelland of Michigan and May of Ohio are named for the Post Office, Marcy and Figg for the office of Secretary of the Treasury, Cushing and Hunter for the State Department; Davis of Mississippi, it is thought, will be Secretary of War; Stockton of New Jersey and Dobbin of North Carolina are named for the Navy; Guthrie of Kentucky and Nicholson of Tennessee for the Interior.

RULES OF THE HOUSE—DELAY OF BUSINESS—THE CAUSE.

Tuesday and Wednesday of last week, members of the House employed themselves in a general discussion of the causes of the delay in transacting the business of legislation. It was admitted on all hands, that there was an inexcusable delay; but opinions differed respecting the true cause of it. Some denominated the rules as being complicated and contradictory, some implicated the Speaker, some arraigned the Chairman of the Committee of the House, some denounced the body itself.

It seems to us that the rules are needlessly complicated. In the desire to guard the rights of the minority, the majority has been so hampered, that it is in the power of a mere faction, if the Speaker be in its interest, to obstruct all legislation. It will be observed, in reading the proceedings of the House from day to day, that the common motion is to suspend the rules, for the purpose of proceeding to some special business. In fact, little business is done, except under a suspension of the rules. How can a code of regulations be serviceable, when conformity to them is the exception, and setting them aside is the rule?

But the rules cannot be suspended, unless by a two-thirds vote; so that, although a large majority may be in favor of some important measure, it may find itself unable to reach it, in consequence of the will of a factious minority.

As to the imputation of inefficiency against the Speakers of the House, they are not entitled to much weight. They are efficient enough, but something more than efficiency is required in the presiding officer of such a body as the United States House of Representatives. He must be independent of faction, independent of local interests, and courageous enough, while protecting the rights of a minority, to secure to the majority its legitimate weight.

We do not say that the present Speaker is deficient on these points; but we do say that the Speaker of the last House, Mr. Cobb, was deplorably deficient. During the controversy on the Slavery Question, he was the organ of a faction. He gave such construction to the rules, as put it in the power of forty men, for any length of time, wickedly to thwart the will of the whole House besides. Has the country forgotten how the measure of the admission of California as a State was fought from day to day, and week to week, by this small faction, with Mr. Cobb as its exponent and instrument, in defiance of the repeatedly expressed will of an immense majority of the House, representing an immense majority of the American People? By motions made simply to arrest all business, by asking to be excused from voting, for no reason, and then demanding the yeas and nays on the question whether the member should be excused, by alternating the same motions, with eternal calls for the yeas and nays, all legislation was made impossible, and the morals of the House was debauched.

Rad precedents are dangerous. Faction has been learning its strength ever since the agitation of the Slavery Question in Congress, in 1833. It was organized under the auspices of the Slave Power. It has been fostered by the Slave Power for the purpose of putting down the right of petition and the freedom of debate. It has been tolerated by other-minded representatives, either directed its efforts specially for its suppression. It developed itself in its full strength during the last Congress, when it invited the House and obstructed all legislation by expedients which could be justified by no cause which would not justify a revolution.

Was it to be expected, that with such an example of what might be accomplished by its power, its action would be confined to questions of Slavery? The proceedings of the House during the present Congress show clearly enough that it has extended its range, so as to encompass other subjects, repugnant to the views of a minority. If, for example, a bill which it dislikes, lies upon the Speaker's table, having precedence of many other important measures, it will sacrifice them all, rather than allow that to be fairly considered; and it unscrupulously resorts to all sorts of motions, to prevent the consideration of a measure on which it knows the majority has made up its mind. The object is not to save time for consideration—but to prevent haste—so as to secure a full attendance of the members—not to prevent a snap judgment from being taken—but it is simply to defeat a fair expression of the will of a majority, acting after due deliberation, and under the rules of the House.

We repeat, this Element of Evil in Congress owes its present dangerous development and activity, more to the Slave Power—far more than to any other cause. The records of Congress, from 1833 down to 1852, will show this to any one who chooses to consult them.

OVERTURE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO CENTRAL AMERICA.

From a communication submitted to the Senate by the President, respecting affairs in Central America, it would seem that the British Government is anxious for an honorable and pacific settlement of difficulties in that quarter. Mr. Everett, in summing up the overtures of the British Government, through Mr. Crampton, says—

"First, that in consideration of the altered state of things under which it grew up, that Government is disposed to relieve itself from the protectorate of the Mosquito Indians, provided that a security can be obtained for them against hostile incursions from the neighboring States."

Secondly, that the British Government regards the erection of San Juan del Norte into a free and independent city, whose political condition would resemble that of the free cities of Germany, as the best course to be pursued for settling the controversies relative to the sovereignty of that place, and as the most convenient mode of insuring protection to the Mosquito Indians.

Thirdly, that though a formal guarantee of the free city is not proposed to be entered into by the two Powers, Great Britain desires the concurrence of the United States in effecting these objects."

Mr. Everett does not recommend assent to these propositions—he thinks that the terms of settlement provided in the convention of 30th April, 1852, would be more advantageous to Nicaragua, and that recent events encourage the expectation that the Nicaraguan Government may accept of them. But he justly remarks—

"However this may be, the communications of the British Minister, made by order of his Government, will not doubt be regarded as a satisfactory indication of a desire on the part of Great Britain, by resigning the protectorate of Mosquito, to remove one of the most serious embarrassments of the case. They seem to this Department also to suggest the expediency of a new effort to induce all parties to enter into an amicable settlement of their conflicting claims and interests. Such an effort might advantageously begin by putting the diplomatic relations of the United States with Central America on a better footing."

He proceeds to recommend the appointment of a full Minister to Central America, to be accredited to each of the Governments included in that name, to reside successively at such of their capitals as he should deem expedient, with full powers to treat with any or all of them, and with instructions to use the influence which his rank would give him to promote the great work of civilization.

We do hope that the propositions of the British Government may be fairly considered by the Senate, and that the friendly feeling that seems to have dictated it may be reciprocated. England is ambitious, but does not desire any conflict with us. Both nations have nothing to gain, but much to lose, by a rupture of the friendly relations now subsisting between them. But, let us have no more pretenses with afterthought constructions, and no arrangements which will not exclude European colonization from all of Central America.

HOMESTEAD BILL.

This important measure, brought forward several years ago in the House of Representatives, by Andrew Johnson, of Tennessee, urged by him at every session since with great ability and pertinacity, passed at the last session, after a full debate, by a majority of two-thirds of the House, and sent to the Senate in season for its action, is still without the form of law. The Senate refused to act upon it then, and will not notice it now. We believe the Committee on Public Lands has charge of it. Is the Chairman hostile to the measure?

Early in the session, Messrs. Hale and Chase brought the subject to the notice of the Senate, and pressed for prompt action, but they were overruled. That body is too far removed from the People, to pay much respect to their wants or wishes. Were the members dependent upon them, instead of an intermediate body, for their seats, and was the term of service two instead of six years, they would look more to the interests of the masses.

A writer in the *Union* says—

"This important measure—perhaps the most important ever before Congress—has been shelved, and will be shelved, like some trifling memorial, on the table of the Senate."

I say nothing now of its merits—I speak only of the apathy of the Senate as to the bill. If it be indifference only, then that shows a want of appreciation of so great a measure, and of the public will as expressed through the House of Representatives and the press; but, if the inaction of the Senate arises from a desire to evade the question, such *laissez faire* (let alone) legislation is unjust to the country. A bill of such a character, passed by a two-thirds majority in the House, now nine months ago, surely is worthy the attention of the Senate—I might have said, demands the attention of the Senate. Let it be acted upon. The country expects it. The people will hold the Senate in this second session of the thirty-second Congress responsible.

True, but how are they to hold them responsible? It may be six years before they will have a chance to show their disapprobation, and then they can only do so indirectly through an intermediate legislative body, whose composition may be determined by other questions.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

The persecution and imprisonment of the Malaita family, by the Grand Duke of Tuscany, for exercising the rights of conscience, have aroused the indignation of liberal men all over the world. At this time of day, it is too bad that any tyrant, great or small, should dare to punish a man for reading the Bible, or worshipping God according to the dictates of his own conscience, without interference with the rights of his neighbor. Such oppression justifies intervention of a most decided character.

The United States, recognizing as they do, in their organic law, the rights of conscience, and faithfully securing the full enjoyment of these rights to immigrants, sojourners, or citizens, without distinction of sect, are bound to promote the cause of religious freedom throughout the world; and specially to secure for Americans in other countries, the freedom of conscience guaranteed to citizens of these countries while sojourning or settling within our borders.

Executive influence, wisely directed, will accomplish all that is needed. We are gratified, therefore, that Mr. Underwood has reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, in the Senate, the following resolutions:

"Resolved, That it would be just and wise, on the part of the Government of the United States, in future treaties with foreign nations, to secure, if practicable, to our citizens residing in such places, the right of worshipping God, freely and openly, according to the dictates of their own consciences, by providing that they shall not be disturbed, molested, or annoyed in any manner, on account of their religious belief, nor in the proper exercise of their peculiar religion, either within their own private houses, or in churches, chapels, or other places appointed for public worship; and that they shall be at liberty to build and maintain places of worship in convenient situations, interfering in no way with, but respecting the religion and customs of the country in which they reside."

"Resolved, further, That it would be just and wise, in our future treaties with foreign nations, to secure to our citizens residing abroad, the right to purchase and own burial places, and to bury any of our citizens dying abroad in such places, with those religious ceremonies and observances deemed appropriate by the surviving relatives and friends of the deceased."

The *Commercial Advertiser*, of New York, a paper which shudders at the word *intervention*, can see no harm in such a declaration as this.

On the contrary, it is warmly in favor of it. "Such a declaration, as we have before said, would benefit our Government, would be reasonable, now that the disgust of the world has been so plainly expressed in the case of the Medias, and would deter Tuscany, or Austria, or Rome, from any attempt at such tyranny over an American citizen; and we repeat the expression of an earnest hope, that before the present Congress rises, it will declare, by resolution, its abhorrence of the religious tyranny, and its determination to exert its influence, as a sentiment to Roman Catholic powers in the strongest terms that international comity will allow."

FRAUDS UPON THE GOVERNMENT.

We blame no man for laboring to guard the People's money against fraud and extravagance. Too much vigilance cannot be maintained over the public treasury—too much pains cannot be taken to secure the faithful fulfillment of contracts with the Government. It is common to regard the Government as a great corporation, which it is no crime to overreach or subject to extortion.

But the words "extravagance," "retrenchment," "waste," "corruption," "fraud," have a magical effect in political warfare. The men who are the most full of patriotism, a fraud may offend them, not so much because it is a fraud as because it is successful. Waste or corruption which they would overlook in their own Party, they arraign with a most Pharisaical austerity, when practiced by their political opponents. Nay, in their over-righteous judgment, a mere rumor or an ex-parte statement will serve as ground for a long indictment of high crimes and misdemeanors against an Administration which they would render odious.

Lately, we observed in several newspapers, charges of gross fraud in the use of the appropriation made at the last session for the erection of additional wings to the Capitol. They were repeated in every variety of form, and the only evidence offered to sustain them was certain *ex parte* statements made in Congress during the heat of debate. It turns out that there has been a great waste of righteous indignation. Mr. Stanton, of Kentucky, a Democratic member of the House, and Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings, in a note to the *Union*, puts a quietus upon the charges, as follows:

"The deficiency bill brought these frauds before the House. That bill appropriated the sum of \$400,000 to meet deficiencies in the fund provided for the enlargement, although it appears that when the last appropriation of half a million was made, it was intended that no deficiency should be permitted to occur; for it was believed that the expenditure would be strictly to the sum appropriated. A deficiency of four hundred thousand in an expenditure limited to five hundred thousand dollars—an increase of four-fifths over estimates—is a characteristic achievement of Whig administration."

Now, sir, it will suffice to reply to this paragraph your own table, to the beginning of the last session of Congress, December, 1851, the Secretary of the Interior and the architect of the extension sent to Congress their estimates of the amount of money required to carry on the work to the end of the present fiscal year, 30, 1853—a period of more than a year and a half. The amount asked was \$1,000,000, as will be seen by the report. The subject was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, of which I am the Chairman.

In consequence of the hostility which then existed against the work, and the efforts made in some quarters to defeat it, I thought an appropriation of a half million could be carried out, and the work in progress, and accordingly, with the assent of the committee, I offered a resolution in the House, making an appropriation of that sum only. This carried; and instead of a million, which was necessary, there was appropriated only one-half the sum needed to keep the work in progress until the expiration of the present fiscal year. The object for which the four hundred thousand dollars is now asked is to keep the work in operation until the last of next June. The sum here appropriated is fully exhausted in the purchase of materials and the employment of labor. No debts of any importance are due, either for work, material, or other objects. You will see, therefore, that the deficiency to which you refer is not a deficiency of four hundred thousand in an expenditure of five hundred thousand—the increase of four-fifths over estimates; as you allege; and that the inference you draw therefrom, to the prejudice of those having the management of the fund, is unjust."

In relation to another charge, that sixty-five thousand dollars had been lost to the Government by frauds connected with the furnishing of marble, he says—

"My official position, as Chairman of the Committee of the House having jurisdiction of the subject, has induced me to inquire into this alleged enormity; and having examined the returns of marble delivered, and the payments made to the present day, I am prepared to state that the whole amount paid for marble delivered up to this moment, is only \$61,244.51. Your ingenuity will perhaps enable you to show how, under this state of fact, the contractors have been enabled fraudulently to pocket \$65,000 over and above the value of the article."

The Government has its rights, and so has the citizen. The Public Treasury should be guarded against profligate expenditures; but private character should be protected against outrage or inconsiderate outrage. He who robs the Government of sixty-five thousand dollars, deserves the Penitentiary; but he is guiltless who, on insufficient grounds, and without careful investigation, publicly arraigns as a swindler his fellow citizen? We suspect that man's devotion to the public interests, who ruthlessly tramples upon private character.

DIVISION OF TEXAS.

The project of dividing Texas has been a common topic of discussion in the newspapers of that State for the last two years. It is believed by many that the interests of Eastern and Western Texas cannot be provided for effectively by one Government, and it is alleged that the representative power of the latter has been used to the detriment of the former. The newspapers are not agreed in relation to the proposed measure. Some advocate it, with a view to the advancement of certain local interests, and to the increase of the political power of Slavery in the Senate of the United States; and some oppose it, as they are ambitious that a division of Texas would lead to the organization ultimately of a free State in the West.

The Columbia South Carolina states that the advocates of division are mostly in Eastern Texas, where several papers are enlisted for the measure.

The Houston Telegraph admits that the scheme is rapidly gaining adherents. It opposes it, urging "that if there should be a division of the State, as proposed, into Eastern and Western Texas, there would be great danger of the western section becoming a free State; which the Telegraph thinks would much depreciate the value of slave property in Eastern Texas. It is stated that the success attending the out-

ture of sugar in Texas has been such that the country between the Trinity and the Guadalupe rivers is rapidly filling up with planters; and, if the State remains united for some years longer, it will be pretty well peopled with a slaveholding population."

The *Ledger*, of San Antonio, uses the same argument in opposition to the measure:

"It has been urged that among the population of seven thousand Mexicans within our borders, and the immense tide of foreign emigrant laborers now pouring into Western Texas, there is among us a strong Free Soil tendency. Now, divide the State, is there not strong danger that the west would soon enact a Free Soil constitution similar to that which in the former North slave-border States has resulted in the emancipation of the servile population? Against this division of the State, we have eastern gentlemen, and you may have a powerful abolition State by your side, that will at every year your most sacred and opulent interests."

We doubt whether there be any real ground for such an objection. Texas will be divided, and we expect to see an application submitted to the next Congress for the admission of another slave State. It may be difficult to induce German immigrants to become slaveholders, but they cannot be relied upon for active opposition to Slavery.

BRITISH COLONIAL AND LAKE TRADE—INTERESTING REPORT.

By a resolution adopted in the Senate July 12th, 1851, the Secretary of the Treasury was requested to communicate to the Senate, as early as possible, complete statements of the trade and commerce of the British North American colonies with the United States and other parts of the world, on land and sea, in the years 1850 and 1851, with such information as he could obtain of the trade of the great lakes. In pursuance of the resolution, Mr. Corwin selected Mr. L. D. Andrews, our consul at St. Johns, to collect and arrange the information sought for; and the results of this gentleman's investigations have been embodied in a large report, lately submitted to the Senate, the first part of which we have had the pleasure of looking into.

It is the most ample and satisfactory report on the subjects referred to, which we have ever seen. The statistical tables are invaluable; the arrangement is comprehensive and lucid; and the accompanying remarks and explanations emanate evidently from sound and enlarged views of the great interests and true policy of the country.

The British North American provinces, mentioned in the report, are the following:

Canada East	128,659,680
Canada West	31,742,539
	160,402,219
New Brunswick	22,000,000
Nova Scotia (proper)	9,534,196
Cape Breton	2,000,000
Newfoundland	23,040,000
Prince Edward's Island	1,360,000
Total	218,339,415

In 1820, the population of all these provinces was said to be 1,375,000. The census returns, at the close of the year 1851, presented the following results:

Canada East and West	1,842,265
New Brunswick	193,000
Nova Scotia and Cape Breton	277,000
Newfoundland	101,600
Prince Edward's Island	62,678
	2,476,548

Of the Canadians, some fourteen hundred and fifty thousand are natives, of whom eight hundred thousand are of French, six hundred and fifty thousand of French origin. Of the foreign population in the Canada, 1,127,000 are from Ireland, 94,000 from England, 90,000 from Scotland, 56,000 from the United States, and the rest from other countries.

It is stated that the population in all the colonies doubles itself in sixteen or eighteen years. In 1806, the value of all the exports from the colonies was but \$7,287,940. In the year 1831 it had more than doubled. In 1851 it reached \$35,720,000. Their tonnage outward by sea increased from 124,247 in 1806, to 1,383,104 in 1851.

The importance of the trade between this country and the colonies is not generally understood. The following tables from the Report show the amounts of colonial exports and imports in 1851:

Imports from Great Britain, the United States, and other countries, in 1851.		Other countries.
Great Britain	12,878,828	1,844,376
Nova Scotia	2,133,935	1,396,216
New Brunswick	2,292,399	1,044,165
Newfoundland	1,660,750	998,735
Prince Edward's Island	279,898	41,693
	18,878,706	5,287,579

Aggregate of colonial exports to Great Britain, United States, and other countries, in 1851.		Other countries.
Great Britain	\$6,731,204	\$4,939,280
Nova Scotia	1,124,245	736,425
New Brunswick	2,499,729	1,124,245
Newfoundland	2,162,755	99,970
Prince Edward's Island	84,966	55,385
	11,568,925	6,218,060

We hope wise counsels may prevail with the Governments of both countries, leading them to remove all restrictions on the trade between the colonies and the United States. What if we do live under different Governments, this fact does not change our geographical relations, nor ought it to change the laws of trade. Free trade between the United States and Canada would be just as beneficial as free trade now is between New England and the Mississippi valley, or between the States north and south of the Ohio river.

UNPUBLISHED CORRESPONDENCE.

The Society of Tammany, as may be recollected by some of our readers, held a grand celebration last December, to which were invited the distinguished Democrats of the country. Among others who were so honored, was our friend, J. W. Howe, of the House of Representatives, Washington, who, appreciating the compliment, returned an answer which we do not think appeared among the letters from the unfortunate absentees. It has lately fallen into our hands, and as it is quite a unique piece of composition, our readers may be refreshed by its perusal. One or two words towards the close are rather too sharp for so good-natured an epistle, but the writer is evidently imbued with the spirit of fraternity.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

December 27, 1852.

Col. DANIEL E. DELAYAN, Grand Sachem of the Tammany Society.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Society's favor of the 16th inst., inviting me to be present at your annual "war dance," to join in celebrating the thirty-eighth anniversary of the BARRICK OF NEW ORLEANS, at Tammany Hall, on Monday evening, the 10th proximo. I can't come. I belong to another tribe of "friendly Indians," called the "FREE DEMOCRACY," which means, in our language, freedom for all the world, and the rest mankind. We speak in a tongue not entirely unknown to your NATION. We are National in politics. In that we are peculiar. We are the only tribe, now living in the United States, who speak but one tongue upon the subject of Slavery; and that we were taught in the HOWARD LAW—which was.

There was, until recently, a large tribe of Indians (mostly half-breeds) wandering over the whole country, some of whom understood, and spoke tolerably well, our language, but, being *skin-skinned*, falsified their former professions; and after they had surrendered their principles, (and themselves too) your tribe in the most wanton manner made them *run the gauntlet*; and on the 24 day of November last TOMAHAWKED their old Sachem in a savage manner. That tribe is fast dying out of "agitation"—is nearly dead, "so it is."

Below I give you the names of some of our chief men, or, as we call them, HEAD MEN: Sachem, George W. Julian; Sachem, Charles F. Adams, Jr.; John P. Hale, Grand Sachem. Fraternally yours, JOHN W. HOWE.

Nada Bene. It is requested that the answer (if any is given) be directed to Hon. John P. Hale, Washington, D. C.

P. S. We would like to cultivate peace, FRIENDSHIP, and LOVE, with your wigwag, and to teach your young men our language. J. W. H.

D. E. D. G. S.

LITERARY NOTICES.

RESTORATION OF THE MONARCHY IN FRANCE. Vol. III. By Alphonse de Lamartine. New York: Harper & Brothers.

We have already called attention to this work, and noticed its leading features. The third volume embraces the period from the seizure of Napoleon as a prisoner of war, and his exile to St. Helena, to the day of his death. It is full of Lamartine's poetry and philosophy.

SHADES OF CHARACTER; or, The Infant Pilgrim. By Anna Woodroffe. 2 vols. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. For sale by Gray & Ballantyne, 7th street, Washington, D. C.

This is a religious novel—not religious in spirit or sentiment alone, but in technology. It is hard to make such a work agreeable, but the authoress has ventured upon the task. She writes in a good style, and inculcates excellent sentiments.

THE HIGHER LAW, in its relations to Civil Government, with particular reference to Slavery and the Fugitive Slave Law. By William Houser. Auburn: Derby & Miller.

The author puts forth this book under the conviction that it is the bounden duty of all Christian ministers to take an active, prominent part on the side of the slave, in the discussion of the question of Slavery; not only because it is a work of mercy to do battle for him who is wrongfully bound and unable to do battle for himself, but because this said question of Slavery involves principles in which is centered the whole vitality of the Christian faith. He contends, upon two premises, that it is their duty to preach the Higher Law, as transcending all other laws; inasmuch as in its denial the prime basis of the whole doctrine of Christ is denied. He contends, and again upon two premises, that this duty "is incidental to the station, but not to the minister, for he is charged with the defence of the Gospel."

The book is made up of a series of articles, each of which is an analysis of the Higher Law in its relation to some one of the prominent questions of the day. They are all remarkable for quiet force, logical argument, and a clear appreciation of the whole scope of the subject. The book is neatly printed, and opens with a portrait of Mr. Seward.

THE DAUGHTERS OF ZION. By Rev. S. D. Burdick. D. D. New York: J. B. Taylor. For sale by Gray & Ballantyne, Washington, D. C.

The author has been induced to prepare and put forth this volume, by the feeling that in the multitudinous daily bookshelves of this wondrously prolific age, the Bible, considered merely as a literary production, was being deplored in its legitimate position. His feeling will be at least respected by all who are familiar with the exquisite beauty of those biographical episodes which abound in Biblical history. He has taken pains to arrange them in chronological order, beginning with Sarah and ending with Mary Magdalene. A tasteful simplicity and a reverent earnestness characterize the style of these narratives, and they are not, as so too often happens in such cases, overlaid with sectarian comments and interpolations. Steel engraved representations of a majority of the "Daughters" accompany their histories.

THE POETICAL WORKS OF HENRY ALFORD, Vicar of Wymondley, Leicestershire. Boston: Ticknor, Reed, & Fields. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington, D. C.

Mr. Alford is one of those who believe that it is the office of Poetry to incorporate itself with the Present—to exercise its refining influence upon the now-existing events of the world. He desires that, instead of terrestrializing angels, (as *Festus Bailey* domesticated the moon and stars, and paraphrasing ancient myths and traditions, it should kick off its high-heeled boots and walk earnestly and bravely along with the world—constitute itself the brakeman, as it were, on the engine of Progress, and endeavor to modify this sixty-miles-an-hour impetus, which it has acquired somehow or other, towards utter materialism. The distinguishing elements of his poetry seem to be perfect purity of sentiment, directness and strength of thought, and simplicity of language, combined with a deep, earnest, ever-present, religious faith. We have been most attracted to those poems which describe actual experiences, and therefore respect least aid from the imagination—in the absence of which faculty, or at least the higher form of it, consists his most notable deficiency as a poet; and herein, we fancy, lies the secret, perhaps unknown to himself, of his theory in regard to the functions of Poetry.

Of the typography, &c., of the book, it is superfluous to speak, inasmuch as it comes from Messrs. Ticknor & Co.

THE SUCCESSFUL MERCHANT. By William Alford. A. M. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Barnham, Washington, D. C.

This purports to be the biography of a real character, followed through the thousand and one intricacies of an active and successful commercial life. Its object is to counteract the deplorable tendencies of commerce as conducted now-a-days. It is meant to show that a man can be a merchant, and a "successful merchant," without imitating the holiest and holiest attributes of his nature—without making of himself a mere thermometer, indicating the mere temperature of Wall street. It is an earnest, good book.

Autographs for Freedom. Boston: J. P. Jewett & Co. Cleveland, Ohio